Wide Area Information Server Opportunities

Brewster Kahle
Thinking Machines Corporation
February 3, 1992
NC WAIS Center

Overview

WAIS Uses:
- Campus Wide Information Servers
- Libraries
- Biology
- Chemistry
- Business Executives
- Medical Researchers/Doctors
- Community Information

Why A Consortium?

Conclusion

WAIS Uses:
Campus Wide Info Servers

- Class catalog and schedule
- Campus events: movies, sports
- Job listings
- Library catalog
- Phone book
- Professor research interests
- Past theses

WAIS Uses: Libraries

- Easy to use card catalog

- Remote use from home or office

- Pictures, full text, scanned documents

WAIS Uses: Biology

- Journal Abstracts
- Sequence archives
- Images

Currently over 20 Biology databases in Finland, Netherlands, and US

WAIS Uses: Chemistry CORE Project

- All published chemistry (8 years all ACS)

- Scanned pictures, ascii text

- Optical jukebox mass storage

- Connection Machine / Newton search engines

Project of :Bellcore, ACS, Chem Abstracts, OCLC, Cornell, and Thinking Machines

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WAIS Uses:
Business Executives

- Dow Jones information

- Corporate information

- Personal information

Project: KPMG, Apple, Thinking Machines,
Dow Jones

WAIS Uses:
Medical Researchers/Doctors

- Medical papers

- Storing and matching patient records

- Remote connections to specialized databases

WAIS Uses:
Community Information

- Dial-up users: no network required

- Directories of services or facilities

- Education and entertainment

Why a Consortium?

- Ensure standard is shared, open, and the best

- Central source for up-to-date implementation

- Maintain freeware version

- Focus for education and training

- Inter-operability

- Inexpensive exploration for members

Conclusion

- Technology is available now

- Electronic publishing can remain an open system if we work together

- Electronic publishing can advance rapidly

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